

Gov. Doc
ONT

T CA24N
Z 1
-37A23



39

MEMORANDUM BY WENTWORTH COUNTY


Presented to

JUSTICE E. R. E. CHEVRIER and MEMBERS OF
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION. (Ontario)

WE SUBMIT HEREWITH THE FACTS AND CONDITIONS
RELATING TO THE TRUCKING OF FARM PRODUCE, TOGETHER
WITH SUGGESTIONS AS TO FAVOURABLE LEGISLATION FOR ITS
REGULATION.

asst Professor Jackson

228



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024 with funding from
University of Toronto

TRUCKING SERVICES REQUIRED BY FARMERS AND FRUIT AND
VEGETABLE GROWERS.

- (1) Transportation of Fruits and Farm Produce to:
 - (a) Markets (Retail Markets
(Commission Houses
(Chain Stores)
 - (b) Canneries
 - (c) Cold Storage Plants
 - (d) Shipping Centres
 - (e) Packing Plants
 - (f) Stock yards
- (2) Distribution of farm supplies such as Fertilizer, Seed, Feed, Nursery Stock, Fencing, Tools and Implements, in fact all farm necessities.
- (3) General Farm Trucking between farms and to and from sale centres, as for example - seed grain, breeding stock, purchases at auction sales and all farm products or supplies interchanged.

Regular licensed carriers do not in many cases provide satisfactory service for any of these required means of transporting farm products and supplies, because:

1. They are in many cases limited as to the area they may serve.
2. They cannot carry enough trucks to handle seasonable rushes, such as the transportation of perishable fruits and the distribution of farm necessities such as unloading cars of feed, seed, or fertilizer, or delivering nursery stock, where time is the limiting factor.
3. They cannot supply drivers experienced in, or capable of, handling farm produce and fruit efficiently.
4. They cannot supply drivers with the necessary knowledge of roads and the location of farms to ensure satisfactory service.
5. They are not equipped to travel over some types of roads on which farm produce must be transported.
6. They are not in a position to carry return loads back to the farm.
7. They are not located close to the required place.
8. They cannot be as available when needed as is desirable.
9. They cannot, because of these and other factors, compete in rates with the farm owned truck.

They have never sought or obtained any appreciable amount of such business, largely because they were not in a position to do it profitably, either to themselves or the farmer.

The farm owned truck that can be hired and used by neighbouring farmers is equipped to do these necessary services and is further desirable because of the ability to:

- (1) Combine small shipments of various farmers and deliver them economically.
- (2) Be readily available for extended service in rush seasons.
- (3) Provide intelligent and efficient handling of the wide variety of products carried.

In many cases the additional work secured in trucking one or more neighbours' produce is the deciding factor in making a farmer-owned truck profitable, as the average mileage of farm trucks is very small, while the licence and depreciation are the same as if in more regular service.

Legislation restricting farmers and fruit growers to hiring only regular commercial transports to handle their products would mean prohibitive transportation costs. Returns now obtained for the sale of farm products and fruit and vegetables are limited, because:-

CHAPTER I

1. The Earth is a sphere, and its surface is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

- (1) Asia
- (2) Europe
- (3) Africa
- (4) America

2. The Earth is covered with water, and the water is divided into four parts, called oceans, by three great lines, called continents.

3. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

4. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

5. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

6. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

7. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

8. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

9. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

10. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

11. The Earth is divided into four parts, called continents, by three great lines, called oceans.

(2)

(1) Such products are sold in the open market subject to competition not only from various parts of Canada but in many products from other countries as well.

(2) The cost of tools and implements used by farmers and fruit growers is raised by tariff restrictions to a higher level than that of competing producers in the United States.

(3) The nature of farm business requires the purchase and maintenance of a full line of implements, many of which are in use only a short period each year.

(4) The farmer cannot regulate his production to suit the market or change it on short notice or stop production if results seem unprofitable.

(5) The farmer operates not only under the ordinary difficulties incident to the production of any commodity but also subject to handicaps of nature, such as weather conditions, insect pests and parasites, and numerous plant and animal diseases, all of which require increasingly greater amounts yearly to combat inevitable loss in quality of product with consequent lowering of price and in some cases complete loss.

(6) Because by constantly accepting a lower standard of living, a farmer can continue in business longer while selling his produce at a loss than most other business men, the general price level is kept low.

(7) The consuming public combats increases in food prices quicker and more vigorously than increases in the price of any other products.

(8) The farmer is not in a position to stabilize prices at profitable levels because his products are to a large extent perishable and must be either consumed or processed immediately.

BECAUSE OF THE FACTS SUBMITTED WE PETITION:

1. THAT FARMERS AND FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS BE LEFT ABSOLUTELY FREE TO HIRE WHATEVER MEANS OF TRANSPORTING THEIR PRODUCTS THEY FIND MOST CONVENIENT AND ECONOMICAL AND PARTICULARLY THAT THEY BE ALLOWED TO PRACTISE CO-OPERATION BY FREEDOM TO HIRE THEIR NEIGHBOURS' TRUCKS OR TO TRANSPORT HIS GOODS ON THEIR OWN, WITHOUT SECURING A COMMERCIAL CARRIER'S LICENCE.
2. THAT NO ATTEMPT BE MADE TO SET A FIXED SCALE OF RATES FOR TRUCKING FARM PRODUCTS OR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES AS IN OUR OPINION, OWING TO THE VARIETY OF PRODUCTS AND THE DIFFERENT CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY MUST BE HANDLED, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ANYONE TO SET RATES THAT WOULD BE EQUITABLE EITHER TO TRUCK OWNERS OR PRODUCERS.

